

Claims

1. A mobile network node comprising means for interfacing with an entity of a local network (A) in which the node is located and with an entity of a foreign network (B) having a non-compatible protocol for communication of short messages between the networks, characterised in that,  
  
the node comprises a pseudo network element operating with the protocol of the foreign network and comprising means for communicating with an actual element of the foreign network.
2. A mobile network node as claimed in claim 1, wherein the pseudo network element is a pseudo HLR.
3. A mobile network node as claimed in claim 2, wherein the node further comprises a pseudo MSC operating with the protocol of the foreign network and being connected to the pseudo HLR.
4. A mobile network node as claimed in claim 1, wherein the node comprises means for interfacing with a short message interworking gateway in the home network for bi-directional transfer of short messages.
5. A mobile network node as claimed in claim 4, wherein said interfacing means comprises a pseudo SMSC operating with the protocol of the foreign network.

6. A mobile network node as claimed in claim 1, wherein the pseudo network element comprises means for communicating with the foreign network actual element via a signalling network.
- 5 7. A mobile network node as claimed in claim 6, wherein the signalling network is an SS7 network.
8. A mobile network node for operating in a home mobile network, the node comprising:-  
10 a pseudo HLR comprising means for operating with the protocol of a foreign network, said pseudo HLR comprising means for receiving a short message from an SMSC of the foreign network;  
15 a pseudo MSC comprising means for operating with the protocol of the foreign network, and for receiving a short message from the pseudo HLR;  
means for routing the short message from the pseudo MSC to an SMSC of the home network.  
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9. A mobile network node as claimed in claim 8, wherein the pseudo MSC comprises means for terminating the message *vis-à-vis* the foreign network.
- 25 10. A mobile network node as claimed in claim 8, wherein the routing means comprises means for interfacing with a home network SMSC interworking gateway.

11. A mobile network node as claimed in claim 10, wherein said interfacing means comprises an SMSC operating with the protocol of the foreign network.
- 5 12. A method for delivery of a short message from a foreign mobile network to a user or application server in a home mobile network, the foreign network operating with a different protocol from that of the home network, the method comprising the steps of:-
  - 10 an SMSC of the foreign network routing the message to a pseudo HLR in the home network, the pseudo HLR operating with the protocol of the foreign network;
  - routing the message to a pseudo MSC in the home network, the pseudo  
15 MSC operating with the protocol of the foreign network;
  - routing the message to an SMSC of the home network using an SMSC access protocol;
  - 20 the home network SMSC routing the message to the destination user or application server.
13. A method as claimed in claim 12, wherein the message is routed to the home network SMSC by a pseudo SMSC located in the home network  
25 and operating with the protocol of the foreign network.
14. A method as claimed in claim 13, wherein the pseudo SMSC transmits the message to an interworking gateway, which performs protocol conversion and routes the message to the home network SMSC.